

Security. They spend nearly 25 percent of their income now on prescription drugs.

In Clatsop County, a retired couple in their seventies from Warrenton, OR, is spending \$450 a month on prescription drugs. If they have another increase in their supplemental insurance—and we all know the vast majority of seniors have these supplemental policies, and we all know in almost every instance they go up—this older couple has told me they will have to stop taking their medication altogether.

An older woman in Coos County, aged 75, getting by on only \$813 a month, is spending well over \$200 of that \$800 on prescription medicine.

I could go on with these cases. I have done that on more than 20 occasions in the last few months on the floor of the Senate, trying continually to bring before the body 3 or 4 cases that highlight how great the need is and how important it is we address this issue.

I believe the President of the United States wants this issue addressed in a bipartisan way. I have talked with him about this subject. He recognizes how urgent it is that seniors get this coverage. I think he made it clear in the State of the Union Address he wants to work with Members of Congress of both political parties to get this done.

We have accomplished a great deal in the last 14 months. Fourteen months ago when Senator SNOWE and I brought this issue to the Budget Committee, I think we were essentially looked at as well-meaning souls but people who just did not have much of a prospect of seeing this go forward. Now we see the issue of prescription drug coverage as one of the two or three most pressing domestic issues. The American people are disgusted.

Our job now—and I commend Senator DASCHLE, but I know there are a number of colleagues on the other side of the aisle who feel the same way—is to reconcile these various bills. We want to make sure we build on private health insurance.

There has been a lot of talk in the last few days about whether private health insurance companies would be interested in this program. Having talked with them at home in Oregon, they are definitely going to be interested in this program because what we envisage doing, what essentially all the bills envisage doing, is having the Government pick up the prescription drug portion of a senior's private health insurance program. That is what is going to go on here. We will not set up new bureaucracies and redtape. We will be looking at an effort to have this program pick up the prescription drug portion of a senior's private health insurance. We want to use marketplace forces to the greatest possible extent. We want older people to have bargaining power in the marketplace.

Right now, Medicare does not cover prescriptions, but the older person who

walks into a pharmacy perhaps in Rhode Island, Oregon, or any other part of the country and does not have prescription drug coverage, in effect, has to subsidize the big buyers of prescription medicine. If, for example, you are a younger worker and have the good fortune of having a company health plan that covers prescription drugs, that company plan can go out and negotiate a discount. The senior, without any coverage, walks into the pharmacy, doesn't get that same rate, and in effect has to actually subsidize those who do have the good fortune of having a health plan where they can have some real bargaining power. That is not right. Vulnerable seniors deserve a fair shake. They deserve to be able to secure their medicine at an affordable price.

I believe the cases I brought to the floor of the Senate tonight again show how urgent the need is for this benefit. I believe there are colleagues on both sides of the aisle who want to reconcile the various bills that have been introduced on this issue. I have teamed up with Senator SNOWE on this matter now for 14 months. We don't think we have the last word on this issue. We want to work with colleagues to find the common ground, to get the help to older people that they deserve. Senator DASCHLE has told me a number of times recently that is what he wants to do. I believe colleagues on the other side of the aisle wish to do so as well.

The hour is late. I do not want to keep the Senate in any longer than necessary, but I intend to keep coming back to the floor, bringing to the Senate these truly poignant cases of how great the need is in this country to cover prescription drug costs of the Nation's older people.

I look forward to working with the Presiding Officer of the Senate, a new Member of this body, and one from a very special family, in my opinion, because his father was so kind to me as a new Senator. I know he shares many of the same concerns I have, that we address this issue in a bipartisan fashion.

I am going to keep coming back to the floor of the Senate talking about why this is so important and why it is so important for the Senate to bring these various bills together.

With that, I yield the floor.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 24, 2000.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:20 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, February 24, 2000, at 11:30 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive Nominations Received by the Senate February 23, 2000:

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

THOMAS M. SLOAKER, OF ARIZONA, TO BE SPECIAL TRUSTEE, OFFICE OF SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, VICE PAUL N. HOMAN.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MICHELLE ANDREWS SMITH, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE HOWARD MONROE SCHLOSS, RESIGNED.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

E. ASHLEY WILLS, OF GEORGIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LORETTA E. LYNCH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS VICE ZACHARY W. CARTER, RESIGNED.

#### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### *To be rear admiral (lower half)*

CAPT. PETER L. ANDRUS, 0000  
CAPT. STEVEN B. KANTROWITZ, 0000  
CAPT. JAMES M. MCGARRAH, 0000  
CAPT. ELIZABETH M. MORRIS, 0000

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK (\*)) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 628, AND 531:

##### *To be major*

TERRANCE A. HARMS, 0000  
\* FREDERICK E. SNYDER, JR., 0000  
KRISTA K. WENZEL, 0000

#### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### *To be commander*

STAN M. AUFDERHEIDE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### *To be commander*

MICHAEL T. BOURQUE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### *To be commander*

MARIAN L. CELLI, 0000  
ELIZABETH B. GASKIN, 0000  
JEANNE Y. LING, 0000

##### *To be lieutenant commander*

MIGUEL A. FRANCO, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### *To be lieutenant commander*

WILLIAM R. MAHONEY, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### *To be lieutenant commander*

STEPHEN R. SILVA, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### *To be captain*

GRAEME ANTHONY BROWNE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

##### *To be commander*

JOHN P. LABANC, 0000

##### *To be lieutenant commander*

DAN C. HUNTER, 0000  
JERRY K. STOKES, 0000

##### *To be lieutenant*

JOHN L. GRINOLD, 0000

JAMES P. INGRAM, 0000  
JAMES P. LESIAK, 0000  
EDWARD P. NEVILLE, 0000  
LANDON C. SMITH, 0000  
MICHAEL R. TASKER, 0000

*To be lieutenant (junior grade)*

CRAIG D. ARENDT, 0000  
ROBERT E. ASMANN, 0000  
WILLIAM B. BANCERT, 0000  
CHRISTOPHER F. BEAUBIEN, 0000  
KEVIN S. BROWN, 0000  
JERRY C. CROCKER, 0000  
NICHOLAS A. CZARUK, 0000  
GARY L. DURDEN, 0000  
PATRICK W. FINNEY, 0000  
BRETT M. GRABBE, 0000  
ROBERT C. HICKS, 0000  
KATHRYN E. HITCHCOCK, 0000  
ADAM R. HUDSON III, 0000  
ROBERT H. KELLER, 0000  
JOHN R. MARTIN, 0000  
RICHARD T. MCCARTY, 0000  
SCOTT W. MCGHEE, 0000  
THOMAS D. MCKAY, 0000  
STEPHEN E. MONGOLD, 0000  
TODD D. MOORE, 0000  
TODD J. NETHERCOTT, 0000  
MATTHEW S. PEDERSON, 0000  
DEREK J. PURDY, 0000  
EDWARD J. ROLEDO, 0000  
ADAM SCHNEIDER, 0000  
FORREST S. YOUNT, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 1552 OR 12231:

*To be colonel*

JAMES M. DAPORE, 0000  
RICHARD PARKER, 0000  
MICHAEL J. WILSON, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 1552 OR 12203:

*To be colonel*

JAMES W. HUTTS, 0000  
TIMOTHY J. HYLAND, 0000  
BRONISLAW A. ZAMOJDA, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS (MS) AND, MEDICAL CORPS (MC), AS INDICATED, UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531, 624, AND 3064:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

PAUL R. HULKOVICH, 0000 MS

*To be major*

MICHAEL A. WEBER, 0000 MC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN THE MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be major*

SCOTT R. ANTOINE, 0000 MC  
VINCENT G. BECKER, 0000 MC  
BAL R. BHULLAR, 0000 MC  
JON M. BRUCE, 0000 MC  
SELLAS P. COBLE, 0000 MC  
THOMAS R. COOMES, 0000 MC  
MARC D. DAVIS, 0000 MC  
JAMES M. DITOLLA, 0000 MC  
JASON R. DITTRICH, 0000 MC  
CHARLES R. DOWNEY, JR., 0000 MC  
TRAVIS A. DUGAN, 0000 MC  
SAMUEL J. EALLONARDO III, 0000 MC  
JONATHAN C. EUGENIO, 0000 MC  
TODD A. FARRER, 0000 MC  
EDMUND W. HIGGINS, 0000 MC  
PHILIP G. HIRSHMAN, 0000 MC  
CHEUK Y. HONG, 0000 MC  
ELIZABETH D. KASSAPIDIS, 0000 MC  
DAVID C. KOTTRA, 0000 MC  
ALEXANDER A. KUCEWICZ, 0000 MC  
ALEX LOBERARODRIGUEZ, 0000 MC

MATTHEW J. MARTIN, 0000 MC  
VINCENT M. MESSBARGER, 0000 MC  
TODD A. MILLER, 0000 MC  
CAROLYN Y. MILLERCONLEY, 0000 MC  
MARY V. MIRTO, 0000 MC  
CHARLES A. MULLINS, 0000 MC  
JOHN F. NICHOLSON, 0000 MC  
SHAWN D. PARSLEY, 0000 MC  
ROBERT L. RICHARD, 0000 MC  
PAUL E. RIECK, 0000 MC  
BRIAN A. SAUTER, 0000 MC  
FREDERICK K. SWIGER, 0000 MC  
SHAWN A. TASSONE, 0000 MC  
ALBERT W. TAYLOR, 0000 MC  
WILLIAM WARLICK, 0000 MC  
DAVID C. WELLS, 0000 MC  
WARREN T. WITHERS, 0000 MC  
PATRICK J. WOODMAN, 0000 MC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS (AN), MEDICAL CORPS (MC), DENTAL CORPS (DE), MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS (SP), VETERINARY CORPS (VC), AND JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS (JA) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

*To be colonel*

MARTHA C. LUPO, 0000 AN  
INDIRA WESLEY, 0000 MC  
JOHN M. WESLEY, 0000 MC

*To be lieutenant colonel*

KAREN L. COZEAN, 0000 SP  
MICHAEL E. FARAN, 0000 MC  
TODD R. GRANGER, 0000 DC  
WARREN S. MATHIEY, 0000 VC  
CHRISTINE M. PIPER, 0000 AN  
PHILLIP R. PITTMAN, 0000 MC  
DAVID SCHUCKENBROCK, 0000 VC  
CALVIN Y. SHIROMA, 0000 DC  
RAY N. TAYLOR, 0000 DC

*To be major*

SUSAN C. ALTENBURG, 0000 AN  
MORGAN L. BAILEY, 0000 AN  
ELIZABETH A. BOWIE, 0000 AN  
WILFREDO CORDERO, 0000 AN  
DEBRA R. COX, 0000 AN  
SYLVIA R. DENNIS, 0000 AN  
MARGARET L. DIXON, 0000 AN  
JOANN S. DOLEMAN, 0000 AN  
ANN M. EVERETT, 0000 AN  
DOROTHY F. GALBERTH, 0000 AN  
CHRISTINE D. GARNER, 0000 AN  
ROBERT C. GERLACH, 0000 DC  
BENNY F. HARRELL, 0000 AN  
WALT HINTON, 0000 AN  
EMMONS V. HOLBROOK, 0000 AN  
BARBARA M. KELTZ, 0000 AN  
DANIEL O. KENNEDY, 0000 AN  
DOROTHY J. LEGG, 0000 AN  
PATRICIA A. MERRILL, 0000 AN  
JOSEPH M. MOLLOY, 0000 SP  
DEBRA A. RAMP, 0000 AN  
DORIS A. REEVES, 0000 AN  
LUE D. REEVES, 0000 AN  
CATHERINE F. RYAN, 0000 AN  
ROBERT SAVAGE, 0000 AN  
ADORACION G. SORIA, 0000 AN  
KAREN A. SPURGEON, 0000 AN  
BENJAMIN STINSON, 0000 AN  
PALACESTINE TABSON, 0000 AN  
IRENE E. WILLIFORD, 0000 AN

*To be captain*

ERIC D. AGUILA, 0000 MS  
DEBORAH ALBRECHT, 0000 MS  
ELENA ANTEDOMENICO, 0000 MS  
JENNIFER BAGER, 0000 MS  
TROY R. BAKER, 0000 MS  
JEFFREY A. BANKS, 0000 MS  
THAD J. BARKDULL, 0000 MS  
PATRICK A. BARRETT, 0000 JA  
SANAZ BAYATI, 0000 MS  
JEREMY T. BEAUCHAMP, 0000 MS  
AMIT K. BHAVSAR, 0000 MS  
ROBERT E. BLEASE, 0000 MS  
ANDREW S. BOSTAPH, 0000 MS  
JONATHAN K. BRANCH, 0000 AN  
ANNAMAE CAMPBELL, 0000 AN  
DANIEL W. CARLSON, 0000 MS  
MARK G. CARMICHAEL, 0000 MS  
AMBROSE M. CARROLL, 0000 AN  
MICHAEL E. CLARK, 0000 AN  
CORINNE M. CONROY, 0000 MS  
JOHN H. CRADDOCK, 0000 JA  
LISA E. CROSBY, 0000 AN  
FREDERICK DAVIDSON, 0000 AN  
DANNY R. DENKINS, 0000 AN  
DAVID H. DENNISON, 0000 MS  
RONALD D. DESAILLES, 0000 AN  
THOMAS E. ELLWOOD, 0000 MS  
JODY L. ENNIS, 0000 AN  
SUSAN K. ESCALLIER, 0000 JA  
STEPHANIE FOSTER, 0000 MS  
TRAVIS C. FRAZIER, 0000 MS  
DENNIS J. GEYER, 0000 MS  
MICHAEL A. GLADU, 0000 AN  
BRIAN L. GLADWELL, 0000 MS  
BLONDELL S. GLENN, 0000 AN  
JAMES W. GRAHAM, 0000 MS  
SHERI K. GREEN, 0000 MS  
WILLIAM GRIEF, 0000 MS  
BRITNEY GRIMES, 0000 MS  
MICHAEL HAMILTON, 0000 MS  
KWASI L. HAWKS, 0000 JA  
BRIAN A. HEMANN, 0000 MS  
JEFFREY HIRSCH, 0000 MS  
RICHARD W. HUSSEY, 0000 MS  
JERRY K. IZU, 0000 MS  
EDGAR JIMENEZ, 0000 AN  
DAVID E. JOHNSON, 0000 MS  
JEREMY D. JOHNSON, 0000 MS  
SAMUEL L. JONES, 0000 AN  
RYAN J. KENEALLY, 0000 MS  
JULIE S. KERR, 0000 MS  
JULIE M. KISSEL, 0000 MS  
STUART R. KOSEK, 0000 AN  
MICHAEL L. KRAMER, 0000 JA  
MICHAEL KRASNOKUTSKY, 0000 MS  
GREGORY T. LANG, 0000 MS  
JENNIFER L. LAY, 0000 MS  
JOHN P. LAY, 0000 MS  
WALTER S. LETTCH, 0000 MS  
ANDREW H. LIN, 0000 MS  
BRIAN F. MALLOY, 0000 MS  
JASON D. MARQUART, 0000 MS  
LAURA N. MARQUART, 0000 MS  
SCOTT F. MCCLELLAN, 0000 MS  
KARIN L. MCCLROY, 0000 MS  
JENNIFER H. MCGEE, 0000 JA  
VALENCIA B. MEZA, 0000 MS  
STEVEN C. MILLER, 0000 AN  
BEVERLY J. MORGAN, 0000 AN  
PHILIP S. MULLENIX, 0000 MS  
SEAN W. MULVANEY, 0000 MS  
KEVIN M. NAKAMURA, 0000 MS  
KENNETH J. NELSON, 0000 MS  
DUC H. NGUYEN, 0000 JA  
JOHN P. OBRIEN, 0000 AN  
JASON A. PATES, 0000 MS  
THERESA A. PECHATY, 0000 AN  
SYLVIA F. PEREZ, 0000 AN  
JOSE PEREZVELAZQUEZ, 0000 AN  
AMERICA PLANAS, 0000 AN  
RICHARD D. REED, 0000 MS  
CAROLYN RICHARDSON, 0000 AN  
ERIC R. RICHTER, 0000 MS  
CHRISTOPHER RIVERA, 0000 AN  
TERRY W. ROBERTS, 0000 AN  
KEVIN K. ROBITAILLE, 0000 JA  
MATTHEW M. RUEST, 0000 AN  
HARLAN I. RUMJAHN, 0000 MS  
MAUREEN A. SALAFAI, 0000 AN  
JOHN D. SCHABER, 0000 MS  
PAULA I. SCHASBERGER, 0000 JA  
JOHN K. SHIN, 0000 JA  
JAMES E. SIMMONS, 0000 AN  
NETTA F. STEWART, 0000 AN  
NEIL STOCKMASTER, 0000 MS  
JUANITA STOKES, 0000 SP  
BURTON L. STOVER, 0000 AN  
CHRIS A. STRODE, 0000 MS  
DREW A. SWANK, 0000 JA  
DOUGLAS M. TILTON, 0000 MS  
EVELYN TOWNSEND, 0000 AN  
GEORGE VONHILSHEIMER, 0000 MS  
JEAN E. WARDRIP, 0000 MS  
CHRISTOPHER WARNER, 0000 MS  
SYLVIA V. WATERS, 0000 MS  
THOMAS M. WERTIN, 0000 MS  
DAVID A. WESTON, 0000 AN  
RONALD L. WHITE, 0000 MS  
GRACE F. WIETING, 0000 AN  
RONALD V. WILSON, 0000 AN  
GARY H. WYNN, 0000 MS  
CHARLES L. YOUNG, 0000 JA